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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Unit : 1632 Customer No.: 035811
Examiner : Joanne Hama
Serial No. : 10/049,472
Filed : May 28, 2002
Inventors : Hiroshi Nagase Docket No.: 1038-02
: Takashi Endo Confirmation No.: 4103
: Kuniaki Kawamura
: Toshiaki Tanaka
: Tomohiko Suzuki
: Tsutomu Suzuki
: Yasushi Kuraishi
: Kimiyasu Shiraki
Title : REMEDIES FOR NEUROPATHIC PAIN AND
: MODEL ANIMALS OF NEUROPATHIC PAIN

Dated: October 20, 2004

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is submitted in response to the Official Action dated September 23, 2004.

The Applicants acknowledge that the previous requirement dated July 9, 2004 has been vacated and a new restriction requirement has been applied. In particular, the Applicants acknowledge the restriction of the Application into Group I, including Claims 1 – 4 and 7 – 9, and Group II, including Claims 5 and 6. The Applicants hereby elect Group I, including Claims 1 – 4 and 7 – 9, without traverse.

The Applicants also acknowledge the requirement for election of species. In that regard, the Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's helpful comments concerning selection of

each of R, A and B groups from the groups set forth in the elected claims. The Applicants hereby elect as follows:

R1: a cycloalkyl group having 4 to 7 carbon atoms
R2: a hydroxy group
R3: a hydroxy group
A: -XC(=Y)-
X: NR₄
Y: O
R4: a straight alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms
B: a straight acyclic unsaturated hydrocarbon containing one double bond and having 2 to 14 carbon atoms
R5: 3-furanyl
R6, R7: -O-
R8: hydrogen

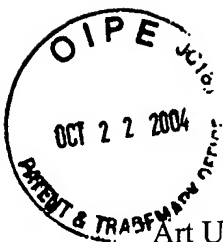
The Applicants respectfully submit that all of elected Claims 1 – 4 and 7 – 9 read on the species elected above. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 31,750

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Sir:

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

For

Postcard
Response

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to **Mail Stop Amendment**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

Name of Applicant, Assignee, Applicant's Attorney
or Registered Representative:

Piper Rudnick LLP
Customer No. 035811

By: 

Date: 20 Oct 2004